

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 0893

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT CH
SUBJ: TIEN AN MEN INCIDENT ANNIVERSARY

1. SUMMARY. OBSERVANCES OF CHING MING FESTIVAL NOW UNDERWAY IN TIEN AN MEN SQUARE ARE LOW KEY AND CENTERED AROUND PLEDGES TO THE MEMORY OF CHAIRMAN MAO, CHOU EN-LAI AND CHU TEH. POSTERS, HOWEVER, IN OTHER PARTS OF PEKING DREDGE UP THE TIEN AN MEN INCIDENT OF APRIL 1976 ONCE AGAIN AND PLACE PEKING FIRST SECRETARY WU TEH UNDER DIRECT ATTACK. END SUMMARY.

2. ON THE EVE OF THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE TIEN AN MEN RIOTS IN 1976 LOW KEY OBSERVANCES ARE TAKING PLACE IN THE SQUARE CENTERED ON THE MARTYR'S MONUMENT. MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS, PLA UNITS AND OFFICE WORKERS ARE PLACING WREATHS WITH RATHER BLAND INSCRIPTIONS MOURNING CHAIRMAN MAO, CHOU EN-LAI, CHU TEH AND CHEN YI AROUND THE MONUMENT. MANY UNITS ARE GIVING GROUP PLEDGES BEFORE THE MONUMENT. ONE GROUP OF STUDENTS FROM A TECHNICAL SCHOOL USED FOR AN OATH CHI TENG-KUEI'S REMARKS AT THE CLOSING OF THE SCIENCE CONFERENCE. OTHERS PLEDGED
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THEMSELVES TO BE BOTH RED AND EXPERT, TO ACHIEVE THE FOUR MODERNIZATIONS AND TO PROMOTE SCIENCE.

3. MEANWHILE, ADDITIONAL POSTERS ARE BEING PLACED UP ON CHANG AN NEAR THE MINISTRY OF POST AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS. ONE RECOUNTS THE EXPERIENCES OF SEVERAL "REVOLUTIONARY COMRADE" ARRESTED AT THE TIME OF THE TIEN AN MEN

INCIDENT AND THEIR DIFFICULTIES IN PRISON AT THE HANDS OF THE FOLLOWERS OF THE GANG OF FOUR. ACCORDING TO A PAIR OF STUDENTS READING THE POSTER (IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO GET NEAR IT DUE TO THE CROWD OF OBSERVERS), ONE PASSAGE IN THE POSTER RECOMMENDS THAT THERE SHOULD BE AN "APRIL 5 MOVEMENT" COMPARABLE TO THE ORIGINAL MAY 4 MOVEMENT OF 1919.

4. IN ANOTHER LOCATION, AND PERHAPS NOT DIRECTLY CONNECTED WITH THE CHING MING OBSERVANCES, THERE WAS AN 11 PANEL POSTER DIRECTLY ATTACKING PEKING FIRST SECRETARY WU TEH. THIS POSTER, AUTHORED BY AN ANONYMOUS SCHOOL TEACHER, APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN PUT UP ABOUT TWO WEEKS AGO AND IS DIRECTLY ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE ENTRANCE OF THE PEKING WEST DISTRICT PUBLIC SECURITY BUREAU BRANCH OFFICE. THE AUTHOR ACCUSES WU TEH OF IMPROPERLY HANDLING THE "150TH MIDDLE SCHOOL INCIDENT" OF PROTECTING FORMER MINISTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH HSIEH CHING-YI, AND OF MISHANDLING THE TIEN AN MEN INCIDENT. HIS MOST SERIOUS ACCUSATION, HOWEVER, IS THAT WU IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PROTECTING FOLLOWERS OF THE GANG OF FOUR IN PEKING. IN LANGUAGE PARALLELING THE LIBERATION ARMY DAILY ATTACK ON THE "COVER UP FACTION" WU WAS CRITICIZED FOR HAVING KEPT THE COVER ON THE INVESTIGATION OF GANG OF FOUR FOLLOWERS IN THE MUNICIPALITY. THE PUBLIC SECURITY BUREAU COURTYARD IS ITSELF CONFIDENTIAL

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PLASTERED WITH POSTERS BUT PSB OFFICIALS SEEMED UNENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT USLO OFFICERS READING THEM THROUGH THE GATE.

5. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH THE AUTHORITIES SEEMED TO HAVE DILUTED MOST OF THE OBSERVANCES AROUND THE TIEN AN MEN SQUARE ITSELF INTO RELATIVELY HARMLESS FORMS, IT LOOKS AS IF WU TEH HAS BECOME FAIR GAME AGAIN FOR SOME HARSH POSTER TREATMENT ELSEWHERE.
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